

The Progressive Farmer.

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Raleigh, N. C.

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Address all communications to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, Raleigh, N. C.

RALEIGH, N. C., JAN. 14, 1890.

This paper entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Raleigh, N. C.

The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' Association and N. C. State Farmers' Alliance, and the Virginia State Farmers' Alliance.

Do you want your paper changed to another office? State the one at which you have been getting it.

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Our friends in writing to any of our advertisers, will favor us by mentioning the fact that they saw the advertisement in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

The date on your label tells you when your time is out.

DON'T BE DISCOURAGED.

WE would like to publish all the communications sent us, but owing to the fact that we receive a sufficient number every week from all parts of the country to more than fill the columns of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, we are compelled to boil them down so as not to exclude other matter. We cannot find room to publish resolutions of respect and many other things in full. However, we are always glad to get these and all other letters, and if you do not see your letter in print don't conclude that it was an intentional slight, but rest assured that it was because we could not find room for it. When writing remember that we cannot publish any letter without the name of the writer is sent with it.

HON. HENRY WALLACE, editor of the Iowa Homestead, in an address delivered before the Stock Breeders' Association, said many good things, and we give the following extracts for our readers' consideration:

Intimately and vitally connected as our interests as breeders are with the farmer, who is dependent on us for improved blood for his herds to be fed for the shambles, we are equally dependent on him as our most reliable customer, his prosperity is our prosperity, and his calamity hangs crape on the door of every breeder.

It is a most startling and significant fact that outside of the agricultural interests, and I use the term agricultural interests in the broadest sense, the nation is enjoying a period of almost unexampled prosperity. Never in my reading of commercial reports has there been more quiet and assured confidence in the business future. Never has there been a clearer financial sky. Even capital seems to have overcome its constitutional timidity with reference to everything except farms and farm products.

It is not a theory which confronts us, but a condition—a condition not peculiar to the West, or the South, or the East, nor to America, nor to Europe. It is the same everywhere the difference being only of degree. The Western farmer is even better off than the Eastern or the Southern, and certainly far better off than the European farmer.

All this reminds us forcibly of the speech of that ancient scoundrel, Caiaphas, in the Jewish Sanhedrin, when justifying the crucifixion of Christ: "Ye know nothing at all, nor consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not." The American confederators of farm property are not so bold in word, but no less so in deed. There is a manifest disposition to give the farmers the short end of the double-tree and say, with the Egyptian taskmaster, "Ye are idle, get ye to your burdens."

The evils that affect us lie deeper than the investigations of the builders of the platforms of parties. The farmer's account of sales on the Chicago market and purchases at the country store throw more light on the nature of the evils than entire volumes of the congressional Globe. One thing is plain, that the contraction of the circulating medium, which this year amounted to \$33,000,000, must be stopped, and I know no way of stopping it at once so effectual, so patriotic and so easy as by the deposit, in the treasury, of the silver of the American mines and making it the basis of a currency issue that shall be legal.

tender for all debts and dues, public and private.

There can be no abiding prosperity without cheap transportation.

We sometimes complain bitterly that our public servants do not study these questions from the standpoint of the farm. Whose fault is it? Have we after the manner of other professions, organized ourselves, formed public opinion and demanded, at the point of a sharp lead pencil, the preservation of our rights? Can a stream rise higher than its source? Can a statesman be far in advance of his constituents? Can a representative of bitter partisans be anything else than a narrow-minded partisan? If the political ideas of farmers rise no higher than the distribution of the offices, if there be no clear, incisive statement of their own rights, how can they expect their representatives and Senators to be anything more than peddlers of patronage?

AN ERROR.

READ carefully the following, to which reference was made in the last issue of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER:

In the compilation of the proceedings of the St. Louis meeting a serious error has been pointed out. Section 20 of the statutory laws should be eliminated and the following substituted in its stead:

That the question of eligibility be left to each State, subject to the limitations of the Constitution.

After much debate and many amendments to that section as it came from the committee, this resolution was offered as a substitute for the whole section and adopted. The small scrap of paper on which this resolution was written became mixed up with a number similar in character relating to the eligibility clause in the Constitution, which was under discussion the same day, hence this mistake. The section will be corrected in the official publication. This correction is made at the earliest moment, and it is hoped that no harm has been done.

—National Economist.

The "limitations of the Constitution" referred to above are found in Art. VIII of the Constitution.

SECRETARY BEDDINGFIELD.

At the recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance, held in this city last week, Bro. E. C. Beddingfield, of House Creek Alliance, Wake county, was appointed to succeed L. L. Polk as Secretary of the State Alliance.

Bro. Beddingfield is about thirty years of age and is a man of most excellent character, and a consistent member of the church. He was elected to the House of Representatives of our last General Assembly, from Wake county, and made a record of which any constituency might be proud. He has been all his life a farmer, and is a thorough, earnest and faithful member of the Alliance. Bro. Beddingfield is what is known as a "self-made man" having, by his own exertion, untiring application and pride of character, brought himself up to his present proud and enviable position.

He is in every way worthy of the high and responsible position to which he has been called and we trust he may have the warm support and co-operation of the brotherhood. All communications relating to the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance should hereafter be addressed to:

E. C. BEDDINGFIELD,
Secy N. C. F. S. Alliance,
Raleigh, N. C.

BRETHREN, TAKE NOTICE.

Remember that at the St. Louis Convention it was

Resolved, That the membership in the cotton-growing districts make all their obligations, such as notes for supplies, for guanos, etc., payable December 25th instead of November 1st as has been the custom heretofore. Brethren, this is very important and I hope you will all not only remember it, but act in harmony with the resolution.

OLD FOGY.

AMONG THE ALLIANCES.

What the Organization is Doing Throughout the Country.

An Alliance bank has been organized at Bennettsville, S. C. The charter will be applied for in a few days.

The Southern Cultivator and Dixie Farmer says that \$100,000 has been paid in to the Georgia State Alliance Exchange.

The Dekalb, Ga., County Alliance has formed a company to manufacture their own cotton bagging and cotton seed and agricultural implements.

The National Economist says: "The mail has brought to the headquarters of the order in this city, proceedings, constitution, etc., of the organization of the Colorado State Alliance. Thus the sister States are falling into line and swelling the Alliance column."

Mrs. W. F. Joyner, of Wake county, raised a gourd last year measuring 5 feet 6 inches in circumference.

FIGHTING A RAILROAD LOBBY.

Gov. Buckner, of Kentucky, After the Lobbyists with a Sharp Message.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 31.—Gov. Buckner yesterday sent to the Legislature, at its opening session, a message which has created a genuine sensation. In it he says the report of a joint committee of investigation of the last Legislature shows that a large and influential railroad lobby was maintained at Frankfort, "embracing chief officers of railroad corporations, both from Kentucky and Tennessee, and attorneys and other officers of railroad companies," and that the object of this lobby was to procure the repeal of an act establishing the Railroad Commission. To attain this object it brought from all parts of the State, "the paid local attorneys and agents of railroad corporations for the purpose of influencing individual members of the General Assembly with reference to railroad legislation," and organized an editorial bureau and "employed agents to go over the State and obtain interviews favoring the legislation it asked, and had the interviews published in many papers." The Senate and House of Representatives were then flooded with copies of the papers containing the editorials and interviews. What purported to be interviews were in some cases purely fictitious. The Governor says further that the lobby has made a thoroughly organized and extraordinarily powerful effort to dominate the Legislature and dictate the railroad legislation enacted by it; that undue and illegal means were used to procure the enactment of such legislation, and that the statute against lobbying has been flagrantly violated.

"The fact that such illegal methods were resorted to by railroads to avoid proper supervision of the act is a convincing reason," says Gov. Buckner, "that the people through their legislative body should not only demand the continuance of this supervision, but, should largely extend the powers of the commission; should carefully define what shall constitute extortion and discrimination; should affix adequate penalties for such officers; should make every violation of its charter by a corporation a public offense punishable by indictment, and in cases of an aggravated character, should provide for the forfeiture of a charter whose powers have been exceeded by the corporation."

As an instance of railroad lawlessness the Louisville Bridge Company (Pennsylvania Company, lessee), he points out, has without a valid charter undertaken to punish the merchants of Louisville who patronize the Kentucky and Indiana Bridge Company. He recommends that a charter with proper safeguards be given the right to dispossess the Louisville Bridge Company and operate upon the street now held by them. He directs attention to "Trust combinations as contrary to public policy," and asks that they be suppressed.

How strikingly does the above picture, in many particulars, resemble one that has become familiar to those North Carolinians who are acquainted with railroad methods in the lobbies of our own Legislature. And what a disgrace to our civilization and to our (so called) American statesmanship! So bold, so defiant of law and of decency, did the hirelings of the railroads become that the legislature of Kentucky appointed a committee to investigate their corrupt methods, and it is upon the report of this committee that Governor Buckner bases his scathing committee. Not only in Kentucky, but throughout this whole country, should all honest men hang their heads with shame. But disgraceful and humiliating as are the facts thus exposed, they are not valueless, if they shall serve to put the people of Kentucky and other States on their guard and Gov. Buckner deserve and will receive the hearty thanks of all honest men for his bold and manly course in exposing them. Oh, that we had more Governor Buckners in this country! Men who could not be bribed, intimidated or coerced by corporate and money power.

For a dozen years the people of North Carolina have asked for a railroad commission. Gov. Vance, Gov. Jarvis, Gov. Scales and Gov. Fowle, all urged it in their messages to legislatures, but all in vain. The railroad power in the lobby has defeated every effort. At our last session men occupied seats who could never have been elected in their counties if their constituents had ever suspected their treachery. Sixty thousand voters, white voters and taxpayers, those who elected these men, sent in their earnest but respectful petitions for a railroad commission. How were they treated? The petitions were contemptuously disregarded and spurned as "sentiment that was manufactured at headquarters in Raleigh." But another legislature is to be elected this year. How many of these men will be sent back to Raleigh to misrepresent the people? Not one of them if the people will do their duty. The people will know the full history of that fight with the lobby and will know the record of their representatives. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER will lay it all, faithfully, before them.

Meantime we warn the people to be on the alert. The railroads have found the Senate bench of the legislatures the most valuable point of attack. They paid no attention to the lower branch and the commission bill went through that house by a large majority. The same thing occurred in Texas and other States. But they captured our Senate. So they did in Texas and other States. Let the people select and elect only such men as will publicly pledge themselves to serve their interests and whose lives are a guarantee that they will observe their pledges.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

* The time has come when barriers must be erected between corporate power and the rights of the people.

* Monopolies cannot be abolished, but they should be controlled. Government must control monopoly, or monopoly will control the government.

* We have heard some objections urged against the Alliance, but we have never heard any one assail the principles of the Alliance. Its principles are founded on Truth, Equity and Justice.

* Make your own bread and meat at home, if possible. If you have a supply for your family, you can, at least, live. To that extent you will be independent. You may want to repair your house or build a new one. You may want to buy a horse or wagon or a machine. But if you can't get the money with which to do these things you can get along without it. But your family cannot live without eating, neither can your stock. Money or no money, you must have bread and meat. Raise it and you will have it. Let the Alliances all over the State, at the beginning of the new year, talk over this important matter and resolve that whatever else may happen they will, at least, make their own supplies.

* We have no full report from the Oxford meeting on Thursday, but news was telegraphed from Raleigh to the Durham Daily Sun as follows: "Delegates from 25 counties of Virginia and North Carolina met this morning at Oxford, N. C., to attend what was officially called by the Alliance the anti-cigarette trust convention. The convention is a strong body. Capt. Williamson was chosen chairman. The convention at once took up the subject of the trust and agreed to receive representatives of all the great cigarette manufacturers in the country. Representatives of Duke & Sons, Allen & Ginter, Kinney and Goodwin were present and made statements to the convention. A committee was appointed to consider their statements and report." We hope to get a full report in time for next week's paper.

* The cigarette manufacturers have arranged for their agents to go on the floors of the tobacco warehouses and exercise the right to fix, absolutely, the price they will pay for the farmers' tobacco and take it. Suppose the farmers could store their tobacco in government warehouses of 80 per cent of its value, which certificates should be a legal tender in all transactions, then such a conspiracy for robbing them would be impossible. The government places the control of its currency in the hands of men and loans them its credit on evidences of debt at one per cent.—it holds whisky three years for its owner, if he so desires—it rushes to Wall street and pours out ten millions of dollars of its gold in one day to save the stock gamblers from wreck, then why can't the government extend some protection to the farmers?

* The farmers of eastern North Carolina have never, perhaps, suffered such disaster to crops as they experienced during the past season. For seven consecutive years they have made poor crops, but the failure of 1889 has well high ruined them. Many of the farms have been entirely abandoned by the negroes. They are leaving the east by thousands. The merchants are unable to aid the farmers and the farmers are unable to supply the negroes and the negroes are compelled to leave. Those farmers who fattened their pork could not slaughter it because of the very warm weather and in many instances their scanty supply of corn has been exhausted in the effort to reach cool weather. Many have slaughtered and lost it. This is only a brief outline of the situation. The farmers of central and western North Carolina made good crops, as a rule. In the tobacco counties they have realized excellent prices for tobacco. Could not some plan be arranged through our State Business Agency by which our brethren of these favored sections could aid our brethren in the east?

—Bro. S. J. Westall, writing from Paint Gap Alliance, No. 1,813, Yancy county, says: We now have 47 members and have paid \$10.50 to the business agency fund; that they are much benefited by reading THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and National Economist. He thinks there is a "screw loose in the ship of State, that the Alliance ought to be on guard for leaks."

ALLIANCE NOTES.

[Always give the name and number of your Alliance, your postoffice and your county, plainly, when you write to the President, Secretary, Trustee, Business Agent or Chairman of Executive Committee of the State Alliance.]

—The postoffice of Bro. A. C. Davis is Unionville, Union county, N. C.

—W. H. Worth, Business Agent, has received from Clinton, N. C., a car-load order for oats, but it is accompanied by no name. Send name by first mail.

—Bro. W. A. Cameron, President of Polk County Alliance, writes that the order is growing slowly but surely in Polk, but he hopes for better things in the future.

—Bro. H. R. Higgins writes us from Goldsboro that Capt. W. A. Darden made one of his telling speeches there on the 28th of December, and thinks he is the right man in the right place.

—Bro. D. F. McGill, of Little Salem Alliance, No. 1301, Gaston county, writes that cotton was badly injured by the frost. Bro. McGill is in favor of shooting all agents and drummers with buckshot.

—Sister Sarah J. Daughtrey, Corresponding Secretary of Wardville Alliance, No. 1146, Chowan county, writes that they have 61 male and 23 female members; that they have been very punctual about attending.

—Bro. J. J. Morris, writing from Pinkney Alliance, No. 826, Wayne county, informs us that his Alliance has paid \$85 to the business agency fund, and that they had a fine treat in the shape of a lecture by Dr. Fos Pearson recently.

—Bro. Fish Paxton, of Waxhaw, Union county, writes that they have done but little business, but are beginning to learn that "in union there is strength," that the members of his Alliance are waking up to the importance of the work.

—Bro. B. S. Franklin, Secretary of Piney Plains Alliance, No. 168, Wake county, writes us that his members are getting more interested every day; that they have applications every meeting, and are determined to make the Alliance a success.

—Bro. J. G. Briggs, Secretary of Foster's Creek Alliance, No. 1,677, Madison county, informs us that they now have 30 male and 11 female members; that the corn crop is splendid in that county, and that more wheat has been sown than usual.

—Bro. G. A. Carroll, Secretary of How Pond Alliance, No. 1,899, Stokes county, informs us that his Alliance now numbers 50 male and 7 female members, and that they have 16 applications on file. They have subscribed a small amount to the business agency fund.

—Bro. A. J. Dally, Secretary of Granville county, writes us that delegates to the district tobacco convention, to meet at Oxford on the 9th of January, 1890, will be met at the train by a committee who will arrange for their entertainment during the meeting.

—Bro. A. M. Hunter, Lecturer of Pioneer Alliance, No. 518, Davidson county, informs us that his Alliance has 50 good, solid members, and they have contributed about one dollar each to the business agency fund. They are building a hall to hold their meetings in.

—Bro. J. B. Luckey, Secretary of Lincoln County Alliance, sends us a report of some of the work done at their recent meeting. Old Lincoln shows up well, having a full representation from every Sub-Alliance in the county, with a total membership of 581 males and 184 females.

—Bro. G. W. White, Corresponding Secretary of Lot Branch Alliance, No. 839, Duplin county, writes that they now have 63 members on roll and getting along finely. They have paid \$40 to the business agency fund; that the cotton crop is only about one-half in that section.

—Bro. Lorenzo Sellers, President of Pisgah Alliance, No. 409, Brunswick county, informs us that Bro. W. A. Darden delivered a fine address to their people on November 27th, and that they had a fine dinner. They raised and paid to the business agency fund \$50, altogether.

—Bro. L. W. Lynch, Corresponding Secretary of Holly Springs Alliance, No. 1,565, Rockingham county, informs us that they have some as faithful members as can be found in any Alliance, and that they have found out what has been needed by the farming element for a long time.

—Bro. D. T. Teal writes from McFarlan Alliance, No. 627, Anson county, that his Alliance now numbers 50 members; that they had a picnic on the 27th of December. Speeches were made by Dr. A. A. Maynard and Maj. J. C. Coit. They spread a fine dinner which was much enjoyed.

—A brother writing from Swift Creek Alliance, No. 1,658, Johnston county, says: "Some of our members are true and tried, while some of them would make poor soldiers under Bro. Tracy. We have a good

attendance most of the time, but am sorry to say that but a few of our members take THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. "We produce everything we can at home and buy just as few trust goods as possible. We only had to buy our sugar and coffee, and now our home-made syrup has turned to sugar, but it is not granulated."

—We have received a number of good resolutions from Caswell and other tobacco sections. As proper action will doubtless be taken at Oxford in regard to the tobacco trust at the meeting on the 9th, and we being crowded with matter for this issue, we will be compelled to defer the publication of the resolutions.

—Bro. H. J. Ward, Secretary of Brown's Alliance, No. 1,349, Bertie county, writes that his Alliance now numbers 28 male members and 14 females; that his members are ever ready to defend the principles of the Alliance, and that they are aware that the Alliance was organized to do more than put money in their pockets.

—Bro. Alex. McIver, President of Chatham County Alliance, sends us resolutions passed at their meeting at Pittsboro on the 3rd inst. "That the partial failure of the cotton crop for the last two years will entail great hardship on the farmers, and that it will be impossible for the merchants to help the farmers; that the credit system is one of the prime causes of financial depression. To this end the most rigid economy should be practiced. They further call on the women folks to aid by making all the articles of clothing they can."

NATIONAL ECONOMIST ALMANAC.

BY OLD FOGY.

I have been favored by the advanced sheets of our almanac. I want to make a few extracts so that our readers may know what good things are in store for them:

"Why compel the people to pay interest on government credit through the bank, when such credit could be extended direct to the people without interest."—Calhoun.

"The poor is our dependence for liberty."—Jefferson.

"The law of supply and demand becomes an absurdity when it is comprehended that capitalism controls both."—Dunning.

The way to keep up prices is to add dollars to the circulation as commodities increase. It is a simple sum in long division.

Divisor. Dividend. Quotient. Commodities volume of money (prices). The only profitable business now is money-lending, and organizing trusts.

Why so little legislation for the people and so much for the party? The people serve the party and its leaders, instead of making it serve them.

The word bond, as applied to evidences of American indebtedness, is a most appropriate one. Bonds are the shackles which bind American citizens in a system of slavery to the money lords.

The success of the Farmers' Alliance means the emancipation of the farmers and laborers' wives, daughters, and mothers from the isolated slavery that now environs them.

One of the great curses our town has to endure is the local political boss. His stock in trade consists in burning the town, swilling free whiskey, and abusing the Farmers' and Laborers' Union. His nose is his flag; its color denotes his politics.

All property is at the mercy of the money power.

Lands in farms in the U. S., 607,906,376
Owned by railroads, 17,816,000
Owned by aliens, 61,900,000
Owned by speculators, 203,900,000

255,216,000

Total of all available lands, including villages, towns and cities, 335,666,000

What food for thought! A few years more of reckless legislation, and Uncle Sam will not be able to give any of us a farm.

There has been already restored to the people 83,158,990 acres.

CORN.

In the year 1888 the total production of corn was 1,987,790,000 bushels, the total area in acres in corn was 75,672,763, the total value of the crop was \$677,561,580, the average value per bushel was 38 cents, the average yield per acre was 26 bushels and the value of the corn crop was \$8.82 cents per acre.

NATIONAL DEBT.

We owed in 1866, \$2,783,000,000
Paid on principle, 1,080,000,000
Paid as interest, 2,462,000,000
Paid as premiums, 36,000,000

Total paid, \$3,578,000,000

Amount paid more than the original debt, \$795,000,000
And yet we still owe - 1,693,000,000
(r within - 295,000,000)

(counting what we have already overpaid and what is yet due) of what it was at first.

These samples will serve as an index to the matter contained; and brethren, it will have 80 pages (octavo) brim full of choice information, and I know you will never regret the 15 cents it costs.